Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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O 311255Z MAY 78 FM AMEMBASSY KABUL TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8304 USMISSION USUN NY IMMEDIATE INFO AMCONSUL AMSTERDAM IMMEDIATE

CONFIDENTIAL KABUL 4423

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ASEC, OCON, OVIP, PDIP, PARM, PGOV, AF

SUBJECT: FOREIGN MINISTER HAFIZULLAH AMIN TO ATTEND UNGA

1. THE MINISTRY OF FORIGN AFFAIRS (MFA) HAS NOTIFIED THE EMBASSY THAT HAFIZULLAH AMIN, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF AFGHANISTAN, WILL DEPART KABUL ON JUNE 3 TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SPECIAL SESSION ON DISARMAMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS GENERAL ASSEMBLY. THE MFA HAS REQUESTED ASSISTANCE IN PROVIDING SECURITY FOR HIS VISIT.

2. THE FONMIN WILL DEPART KABUL ON JUNE 3, AT 7:00 AM, ABOARD ARIANA AFGHAN AIRLINES FLIGHT NUMBER FG-715 FOR AMSTERDAM. IN AMSTERDAM HE WILL PICK UP KLM FLIGHT 643, DEPARTING 6:00 PM AND ARRIVING IN NEW YORK AT 7:55 PM LOCAL TIME ON JUNE 3. HE PLANS TO REMAIN IN THE UNITED STATES FOR THREE DAYS, RETURNING TO AFGHANISTAN ON JUNE 7. TRAVELING WITH HIM WILL BE SAIF RAHMAN KATIL, DEPUTY DIRECTOR, THIRD POLITICAL DIVISION (USSR, EUROPE AND THE AMERICAS) OF THE MFA. IN NEW YORK HE WILL BE JOINED BY MOHD. YAHYA MAROOFI, DIRECTOR, INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND UN AFFAIRS OF THE MFA, WHO IS ALREADY IN THE UNITED STATES, AND BY OTHERS OF THE AFGHAN MISSION TO THE UN.

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- 3. MFA HAS PROMISED FURTHER INFORMATION ON PARTICULARS OF AMIN VISIT, WHICH EMBASSY WILL PASS ALONG ASAP.
- 4. EMBASSY STRONGLY URGES THAT DEPARTMENT AND NEW YORK AUTHORITIES TAKE THIS REQUEST FOR SECURITY PROTECTION SERIOUSLY. THE NEW GOVERNMENT HAS CREATED MANY ENEMIES SINCE IT SEIZED POWER A MONTH AGO. MEMBERS OF THE FORMER RULING GOVERNMENT HAVE BEEN SHOT

AND, MANY OTHER PEOPLE ALONG WITH THEIR WIVES AND CHILDREN, HAVE BEEN IMPRISONED, AND THEIR PROPERTY CONFISCATED. IN THE U.S. THERE MAY BE AS MANY AS 2,000 AFGHANS, MANY OF WHOME WE UNDERSTAND ARE DEEPLY DISTURBED OVER EVENTS HERE. UNDER THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, WE CANNOT RULE OUT THE POSSIBILITY OF AN ATTEMPT ON AMIN'S LIFE. THERE IS A LONG TRADITION OF POLITICAL ASSASSINATIONS IN AFGHAN HISTORY, BOTH WITHIN THE COUNTRY AND OUTSIDE. IT WOULD BE HIGHLY EMBARRASSING TO US/AFGHAN RELATIONS AND WOULD FURTHER JEOPARDIZE THE LIVES OF AFGHANS IN AFGHANISTAN ASSOCIATED WITH THE PREVIOUS REGIME WERE ANYTHING UNTOWARD TO HAPPEN TO AMIN. CONSEQUENTLY, WE HOPE THAT SPECIAL CARE WILL BE GIVEN TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S SECURITY.

5. IN ITS DIPLOMATIC NOTE TO THIS EMBASSY, DATED MAY 30, THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ASKED THAT WE ACKNOWLEDGE TO THEM THAT SECURITY MEASURES WILL BE ACCORDED TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER. PLEASE ADVISE US IMMEDIATELY THAT THIS WILL BE DONE SO WE MAY SO INFORM THE MFA BEFORE AMIN DEPARTS. ELIOT

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